

Private Sector Development Programs And Youth Empowerment: A Case Study Of Dahabshiil Bank , Hargeisa Somalia

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Abstract

The youth of today face a myriad of societal problems. As in previous generations, the social issues facing today's youth can have significant effects on how these young people will eventually turn out as they reach adulthood and progress toward resolving these youth limitations towards corporations. Corporate social responsibility has reducing effect on the major youth problems. The purpose of the study will be to find out how corporate social Responsibility initiatives/programs such as sports, peace and education, youth involvement in decision making and social amenities and infrastructure offered by Dahabshiil bank can empower them (youth) in Hargeisa city, Somalia. The specific objectives of the study are to; find out the influence of CSR by Dahabshiil bank on education among the youth in Hargeisa, to determine whether Sports influences youth empowerment, to establish if youth involvement in decision making affects youth empowerment and finally to find out how social amenities and infrastructure affects youth empowerment. This study adopted a descriptive research design. The target population was the youth living in the three districts in Hargeisa city who have benefitted from CSR programs offered by Dahabshiil bank. A sample of 100 youths calculated using sample calculator for large population were targeted to participate in the study. However, 91 took part. The primary data was collected through questionnaires administered by the head of corporate affairs department in Dahabshiil bank. A pilot study was conducted to pretest the validity and reliability of instruments for data collection. The collected data was analyzed to yield qualitative and quantitative data that was analyzed using SPSS version 23 and MS excel 2010. The results were presented in tables. The study reveals a good linear association between the dependent and independent variables used in the study. This is shown by a correlation (R) coefficient of 0.891. The study found that youth empowerment is influenced by sports, peace and education initiatives, youth involvement in decision making and the availability of social amenities and infrastructure to great extents. The study established that in all the three districts, sports greatly influences youth empowerment. On the other hand, education was significantly influential in Ibrahim Kodbur and Gaan Libah districts and slightly significant in 26 June district. Youth involvement in decision making was significantly positive in all the three districts. Finally, social amenities and infrastructure is significantly positive in Gaan Libah district whereas in both Ibrahim Kodbur and 26 June districts, it is significantly less influential to youth empowerment in Hargeisa city. The research recommends investment in sports and educational facilities. Additionally, the bank management policymakers need to improvise strategies of involving the youth in all decisions affecting them and avail social infrastructures and facilities to enhance youth upliftment.

Keywords: youth empowerment, social amenities, infrastructure, etc

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I. Introduction

Private sector development programs are a concept that has attracted worldwide attention and acquired a new resonance in the global economy [1]. The concept of CSR has a long and varied history. It is possible to trace evidences of the business community's concern for society for centuries. Formal writings on private sector development programs, or social responsibility (SR), however, are largely a product of the 20th century, especially the past '50 years. Furthermore, official publications have been the easiest to understand in the United States, even if private sector development initiatives may be seen conceived and practiced throughout the world, primarily in industrialized nations. Europe has been enthralled with and has been a big supporter of private sector development schemes in recent years [2]. In Malaysia, corporate social responsibility is not only doing business, building schools, and providing scholarships but provides organizations with better reputation, brand value, sales and customer loyalty and this intern better the living standards of the youth.

The concept of corporate social responsibility is not well-known throughout most of Africa. Encouraging the expansion of African businesses and generating jobs can be challenging enough without imposing any limitations on how they conduct themselves. However, it would be completely incorrect to portray Africa as the international political economy's bargain basement, where businesses can set up inefficient operations, pay low wages, and pay little attention to the social and environmental impact of their actions. This is true even though it is important to support local enterprise and foreign direct investment (FDI). Private sector development programs have a significant consequence on the youth empowerment within the communities.

According to the African Union's definition of "youth," which is defined as someone between the ages of 15 and 35, one-third of the continent's population is under the age of 35 (uN, n.d.). This means that a startling 75% of Africans are under 35.1. According to [3], there are 420 million young people on the African continent, and by 2050, that number is expected to have doubled to over 830 million. Thus, only 3.1 million new formal jobs are created annually, while 10 to 12 million young people currently enter the labor force [3]. It seems especially important to inquire about these young people's prospects for employment, particularly for gainful employment. In Africa, 10 to 12 million young people currently enter the labour market each year, but only 3.1 million new formal jobs are being created [3]. In North Africa and in the middle-income countries of Southern Africa, this results in high youth unemployment rates, while in the other parts of Africa most youth enter the informal sector in search for paid work. With many relying on the informal sector for a job [4], in most parts of Africa the youth employment crisis is more a problem of underemployment rather than unemployment, resulting in a lack of quality employment and the incomes that can be derived from it. Other countries have similarly promoted the development of industry-level associations of SMEs to facilitate their participation in training initiatives, including programs to increase on-the-job training and interventions to provide opportunities for out-of-work youth. For example, USAID's EQUIP3 program in Somalia encouraged the creation of business councils to assist with internships for disadvantaged young people [5].

In Hargeisa, the practice of private sector development programs is becoming more prevalent among Somaliland businesses. The government also plays a role in harnessing the skills of the corporate sector in identifying better means through which it can benefit society. This issue is of great importance for Somaliland, as the Somaliland economy is opening up and the government is attempting to diversify its investments and reduce its reliance on the livestock sector. The country has invested in such varied sectors as food, port, telecommunications, and financial institutions to change its status from being a major importer of these products to being self-sufficient or even an exporter of many products. The private sector contribution to sustainable development could be strengthened by tackling capacity constraints among public and civil society institutions, building the drivers for responsible business, nurturing socially-oriented companies, and encouraging local business linkages [6].

Youth empowerment is based upon the idea that the future belongs to the youth and hence to ensure a better future, private sector development programs play a vital role in training the youth of the importance of Peace, Education, and Resource protection etc., so that a shared purpose can be achieved [7] private sector development programs have been touted as an effective management tool to strengthen the youth empowerment through a better image in stakeholder's mind and also because of their responsibility behaviour toward society and environment [8].

The youth of today face a myriad of societal problems. As in previous generations, the social issues facing today's youth can have significant effects on how these young people will eventually turn out as they reach adulthood and progress toward resolving these youth limitations towards corporations. Many of the profound difficulties faced by young people around the globe are illiteracy, poverty, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, discrimination and forced engagement in armed conflict are subjects of widespread concern at the national and international levels. Youth empowerment is a process where children and young people are encouraged to take charge of their lives. They do this by addressing their situation and then take action in order to improve their access to resources and transform their consciousness through their beliefs, values, and attitudes. Youth empowerment is achieved through participation in youth empowerment programs. A variety of youth empowerment initiatives are underway around the world. These programs can be through non-profit organizations, government organizations, schools or private organizations.

The purpose of the study was to assess role private sector development programs on youth empowerment. The study sought to establish the effectiveness of private sector development programs offered by Dahabshiil bank at Hargeisa, Somali in empowering the youth. More specifically to find out how peace and education private sector development programs can enhance youth empowerment in Hargeisa, Somaliland, determine whether sports as corporate social responsibility program can enhance youth empowerment in Hargeisa, Somaliland, establish if youth involvement in decision making as private sector development programs can enhance youth empowerment in Hargeisa, Somaliland and find out how social amenities and infrastructure as private sector development programs could enhance youth empowerment in Hargeisa, Somaliland.

II. Methodology

This study adapted and used a survey design. The survey design allowed the researcher to gather information on actual state of private sector development programs and youth empowerment among Hargeisa, Somaliland as the time of the study. This design also allowed the researcher to gather information from a large number of cases. The information on the impact of private sector development programs on youth empowerment was obtained by collecting data through questionnaires for the youths and through interview with the heads of corporate department at Dahabshiil bank.

This research adopted Slovin's formula [9], the desired sample size can be derived from a population using the following formula;

$$\text{Sample Size} = N \div [1 + (Ne^2)]$$

(Where N is the population and e is the margin of error), using a confidence level of 95% and Margin of error of 10%.

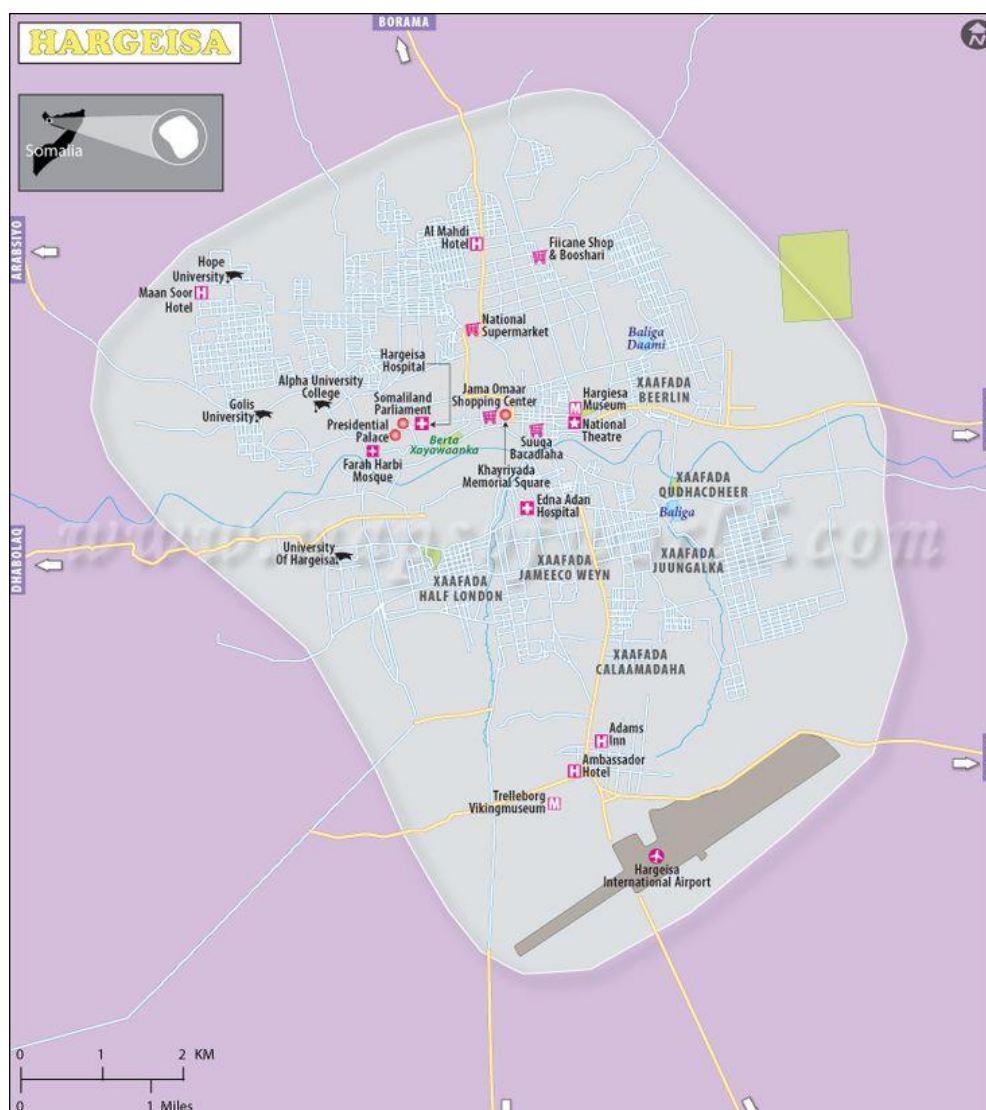


Figure 1. Map showing Hargeisa, Somalia (2023).

The study applied stratified random sampling technique to select a representative sample from the target population. A disproportionate stratified random sampling technique was employed to select the respondents. This procedure is considered effective as it allows individual members of the population a chance of being involved in the study. Therefore, the survey method suited this study because only three towns in Hargeisa where Dahabshiil bank has implemented its private sector development programs (education, sports department, decision making department and social amenities and infrastructure) were targeted.

III. Results And Discussion

The study used 100 questionnaires out of which only 91 were fully filled and returned (Table 1). This was an 91.0 % return rate that was within a bare minimum rate of 50% based on [10]. The no-response of 9 participants was equivalent to a paltry 9% attributed to failure by respondents to submit their questionnaire form.

Table 1: Response Rate

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Response	91	91
Non-response	9	9
Total	100	100

Table 2 shows that majority of the respondents (66%) were male while female respondents represented 34%. Both genders were well represented in the study. Based on the findings a larger proportion of males were engaged in the study compared to a relatively smaller number of females. This agrees with [11] that socially active youth in Somalia has masculine culture and [12] that it is male dominated due to deep-seated male oriented parental upbringing where parents discouraged the female child from being socially active.

Table 2: Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	60	66
Female	31	34
Total	91	100

Table 3 shows that majority of the respondent (48%) were of the age 25-30. 28% were of the age 21-24, 12% aged between 31 - 34 years. This indicates that all ages among the youth were significantly represented.

Table 3: Age

Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18-20	11	12
21-24	25	28
25-30	44	48
31 - 34	11	12
Total	91	100

Table 4 shows that majority of the respondents (42%) were of high school drop-outs. 27% had gone up to college level in terms of academic qualifications, while 22% have the university as their highest level of education.

Table 4: Academic Qualifications

Academic qualifications	Frequency	Percentage (%)
University	22	24
College	27	30
High School	42	46
Total	91	100

Youth from three districts of Hargeisa city were selected as respondents, as the study is focused on their demography. The methodological basis of the study was quantitative in which the questionnaire sought specific responses. The study therefore sought the respondents' level of agreement on various statements pertaining to the four independent variables under study as shown below:

Table 5: Agreements on Effects of Sports on Youth Empowerment

Impact	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean	Std. Dev
Engaging in sports promote Self confidence	19.8	34.4	35.4	10.4	0	3.297	1.6102

Engaging in sports helps youth be aware of social issues affecting them	20.7	33.8	15.7	12.9	16.9	3.1422	3.7734
Engaging in sports can act as a source of employment for the youth	25	43.8	18.8	12.5	0	3.6828	1.2501
If sports is well paying, I will opt to be a professional sportsperson rather than get employed	10.2	15.0	25.5	16.7	32.6	2.3731	1.4611

From table 5, the respondents agreed that engaging in sports can act as a source of employment for the youth as shown by a mean score of 3.628. The respondents were neutral on whether engaging in sports promotes self-confidence as evidenced by a mean score of 3.297. Likewise, in engaging in sports helps the youth to be aware of social issues that affect them. This is shown by the mean score of 3.1422. However, a majority of the youth were not willing to opt for professional sports if the sports was well paying. They rather chose to be employed as presented by a mean score of 2.3731.

Majority of the respondents opined that taking sides in being involved in reconciliation efforts among warring clans did not matter and so they were neutral as shown by a mean score of 3.267 in table 6. It is interesting that most of the youth strongly disagree when it comes to being involved in reconciliation efforts among warring clans in the community as an effort geared towards empowering the youth. Additionally, a majority of the youth remain neutral when it comes to the company donating learning materials such as books to schools in the community as shown by the mean score of 3.001. However, an overwhelming majority of the respondents feel that the company provides scholarship beneficiaries to students in the community as shown by a mean score of 3.914. A substantial number of respondents expressed their concern that community peace initiatives should involve the youth as shown by a mean score of 3.893. A majority of respondents opined that educational levels in once's life does facilitate economic and societal betterment as depicted with a mean score of 3.549. As concerns if peace ambassadors should be in every community village, a majority of the respondents opined agreed with a mean score of 3.992.

Table 6: Agreements on Influence of Peace and Education on Youth Empowerment

Impact	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean	Std. Dev
I am involved in reconciliation efforts among warring clans in the community	17.5	19.2	21.3	18.7	23.3	3.267	1.4210
The company donates learning materials such as books to schools in the community	16.4	14.7	29.9	17.5	21.5	3.001	1.6191
Educational opportunities should be availed to all the youth	48.1	13.8	15.6	9.2	13.3	3.914	1.1145
The company provides scholarship beneficiaries to students in the community	45.6	21.7	9.7	8.9	14.1	3.893	1.715
Educational levels facilitate better lives	38.3	37.6	16.1	5.6	2.4	3.549	1.514
Peace ambassadors should be in every community village	35.4	41.4	13.5	5.9	3.8	3.992	1.324

From table 7, the influence of youth involvement in decision making on youth empowerment is shown. A majority of the respondents agree that the bank does consult them whenever it undertakes its corporate social responsibility activities. This is represented by a mean score of 2.914. However, a majority of the respondents were neutral when asked if the bank involves youth owned enterprises in its CSR activities. And this is shown with a mean score of 3.121. A majority of the respondents disagree that the bank trains the youth on how they can be involved in decision making in the community. This is clear with a mean score of 3.315. Another query was if the bank funds youth engagement in key events in the community. The majority disagreed with this view with a mean score of 3.254. An overwhelming majority did not agree with the question on whether the bank does place the youth in key managerial positions as one of its strategies in training and empowering the youth in Hargeisa. This is revealed with a mean score of 3.133.

Table 7: Agreements on effects of Youth Involvement in Decision Making on Youth Empowerment

Impact	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean	Std. Dev
The company consults with area youth in its CSR	33.7	24.5	17.4	12.1	12.3	2.914	1.117
The company involves youth owned enterprises in its CSR activities	22.9	18.9	24.8	13.4	20.0	3.121	1.431
The company trains the youth on how they can be involved in decision making in the community material	18.3	17.3	16.9	25.6	21.9	3.315	1.291
The company funds youth engagement in key events in the community	20.4	19.5	22.6	23.1	14.4	3.254	1.672
The company trains the youth apprenticeship in Key Managerial roles in its establishment	13.5	12.8	28.4	11.4	33.9	3.133	1.519

The results of the influence of social amenities and infrastructure on youth empowerment are demonstrated in table 8. A substantial majority of the respondents were in agreement that the bank does provide drinking water to the community. This is depicted in the mean score of 3.783. However, on whether the bank is involved in the community clean up, whereas a minimal majority agreed, a nearly similar percentage felt it does not participate with a depicted mean of 3.391. A huge number of respondents felt that the bank does not involve itself in the restoration of feeder roads to link farming communities to markets, thus ignoring a crucial component of the youth empowerment since a majority of them are involved in agriculture. This result is shown with a mean score of 3.762. Most of the respondents replied that the bank indeed does sponsor youth development programmes, which is direct contrast with the previous observation. This result is confirmed with a mean score of 3.183. The health component received a wide berth among the respondents since a majority of them felt the bank does not run health camps and clinics sufficiently among the community members. And this was captured with a mean score of 2.992. The bank however has strived to endear itself to the community by training females in vocational skills. This is seen in the captured mean score of 3.127.

The bank quest for proper CSR is seen faltering in terms of providing treated electric poles to the community to assist rural electrification. Electricity is one of the main parameters for altering the economic lives of the youth by powering different commercial activities. However, in this matter a majority of the respondents felt the bank simply does not meet this threshold with a mean score of 3.411. Neither does the bank supply free electricity to the community as seen in the mean score of 3.213.

Table 8: Agreements on Effects of Social Amenities and Infrastructure on Youth Empowerment

Impact	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean	Std. Dev
The bank provides good drinking water to the community	45.8	23.3	12.4	11.5	7	3.783	1.114
The bank embarks on cleaning exercises in the community	24.9	19.2	16.3	15.8	23.8	3.391	1.341
The bank funds restoration of feeder roads to link farming communities to markets	10.4	9.5	13.6	44.8	21.7	3.762	1.732
The bank sponsors youth development programmes	41.3	27.4	17.5	8.3	5.5	3.183	1.127
The bank runs health camps and clinics	17.6	15.6	18.4	30.3	18.1	2.992	1.438
The bank provides vocational training to females	29.5	23.4	23.7	11.8	11.6	3.127	1.292
The bank provides treated electric poles to the community to assist rural electrification	9.2	8.7	10.1	30.9	41.1	3.411	1.421
This community benefit free electricity power supply from the bank	5.3	6.7	8.3	42.5	37.2	3.213	1.891

The results of regression analysis were presented and discussed as follows:

Table 9 shows that there is a good linear association between the dependent and independent variables used in the study. This is shown by a correlation (R) coefficient of 0.891, the determination coefficient as measured by the adjusted R-square presents a strong relationship between dependent and independent variables given a value of .874. This depicts that the model accounts for 87.4% of the total observations while 12.6 % remains unexplained by the regression model.

Table 9: Model's Goodness of Fit Statistics

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
.944 ^a	.891	.874	.22298	2.086

The ANOVA statistics presented in table 10 was used to present the regression model significance. The significance value of $p = 0.000$ was established and since the p -value was less than 0.05, the model was considered significant for the study.

Table 10: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

	Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	10.933	4	2.733	54.969	.000 ^b
	Residual	1.342	27	.050		
	Total	12.275	31			

a. Predictors: (Constant): sports, peace & education, youth involvement and social amenities & infrastructure:

b. Dependent variable: youth empowerment

Ibrahim Kodbur is one of the districts of Hargeisa which has the highest number of amenities/resources when compared to the rest of the city. The capital city is also representative of residents from other parts of the country. The results from Ibrahim Kodbur district are shown in Table 11. The results indicate that youth from Ibrahim Kodbur district consider sports devised by the bank to impact youth empowerment ($t = 12.104$; $p = 0.000$). The use of sports is one of the prime corporate social responsibilities of private corporates like banks and if they are unable to do so, the youth are distressed. The type of sports and their quantities on empowering the youth of the city act as a motivating factor. Due to the environment in the city where everyone waits for getting a good job, there exists a general lack of drive in the youngsters to come up with entrepreneurial ideas. The results show that peace and education does have direct impact on youth empowerment ($t = 24.841$; $p = 0.000$). Likewise involving the youth in decision making also has a direct impact on youth empowerment ($t = 12.161$; $p = 0.000$). The results reveal that the presence of social amenities and infrastructure for the youth for societal activities promotes their empowerment.

Table 11: Regression Analysis (Ibrahim Kodbur)

Sr. No	Relationship	T-Value	p-Value	Decision
1	SP → YE	12.104	0.000	Accepted
2	PE → YE	24.841	0.000	Accepted
3	YI → YE	12.161	0.000	Accepted
4	SA → YE	4.581	0.000	Accepted

SP – Sports, PE – Peace & education, YI – Youth involvement, SA – Social amenities & infrastructure, YE – Youth empowerment

26 June is yet another district in the city of Hargeisa. It is also a district that offers the maximum number of opportunities. Youth from 26 June district consider that sports made by the bank on every level directly or indirectly impact their empowerment ($t = 14.113$; $p = 0.000$). Peace & education ($t = 3.225$; $p = 0.014$), youth involvement in decision making ($t = 3.001$; $p = 0.012$) and social amenities and infrastructure ($t = 3.001$; $p = 0.012$), were not as influential as the first factor. The results are shown in Table 12.

Table 12: Regression Analysis (26 June)

Sr. No	Relationship	T-Value	p-Value	Decision
1	SP → YE	14.113	0.000	Accepted
2	PE → YE	3.255	0.013	Accepted with minor effect
3	YI → YE	13.223	0.000	Accepted
4	SA → YE	3.001	0.012	Accepted with minor effect

SP – Sports, PE – Peace & education, YI – Youth involvement, SA – Social Amenities and Infrastructure, YE – Youth empowerment

Gaan Libah, is also one of the oldest districts in Hargeisa. The youth from this district also considered all the identified factors to be influential in their empowerment. The presence and or absence of sports and sports facilities makes it difficult for the youth to participate in it. The same strained relationship has been studied by others [13] in rural areas of Hargeisa, and [14] in Sudan, where youth do not have enough opportunities to participate in the sports activities of their countries. This further strengthens the results of this study and implies that more participation by young people in sports can encourage and empower them.

Table 13. Regression Analysis (Gaan Libah)

Sr. No	Relationship	T-Value	p-Value	Decision
1	SP → YE	10.227	0.001	Accepted
2	PE → YE	12.674	0.000	Accepted
3	YI → YE	11.484	0.001	Accepted
4	SA → YE	12.001	0.000	Accepted

SP – Sports, PE – Peace & Education, YI – Youth involvement, SA – Social Amenities, YE – Youth empowerment

The next hypothesized relationship is the impact of peace and education on youth empowerment. The results collected from the respondents show that the presence or absence of education and or educational opportunities in Hargeisa city is directly proportional to the empowerment of the youth. In Hargeisa, there is a lack of educational opportunities which further demotivates the youngsters from engaging in any empowerment activity. The impact of education opportunities has been examined by scholars in other contexts. For instance, [15] studied the employment crisis among youth in Africa, [16] examined the unemployment issue in Nigeria, and [17] studied the youth employment problem in the Kurdistan region and all of them came to the same conclusion that education has a significant impact on youth empowerment.

Finally, on the hypothesized relationship between youth social amenities and infrastructure, this study found a positive impact. The results demonstrate that a high level of social amenities and availability of their infrastructure can motivate youth to undertake empowerment initiatives and thus uplift themselves. Social engagement has been examined by other scholars such as [18],[19] and [20] and reached similar conclusions as this study.

Table 14: Comparative overview of the districts

District	Ibrahim Kodbur		26 June		Gaan Libah	
Relationship	T-Value	p-Value	T-Value	p-Value	T-Value	p-Value
SP → YE	12.104	0.000	14.113	0.000	10.227	0.001
PE → YE	24.841	0.000	3.255	0.013	12.674	0.000
YI → YE	12.161	0.000	13.223	0.000	11.484	0.001
SA → YE	4.581	0.000	3.001	0.012	12.001	0.000

SP – Sports, PE – Peace & education, YI – Youth involvement, SA – Social amenities, YE – Youth empowerment

Table 14 provides a comparative overview of the districts from where the data was collected. The analysis shows that all the hypothesized factors were considered important factors that affect youth empowerment. The sports sponsored by the bank emerged as a crucial factor that impacts the youth. In all the districts of the city, the youth responded that the sports directed toward the youth are not effective because they were not involved or consulted while deciding precisely which sports should be encouraged. Moreover, these sports seem to be seasonal and no long terms strategies have been put in place so that the young people could benefit from them in the long term. The analysis also showed that respondents from the three districts consider that in addition to inadequate youth-related sports and sporting programs, youth themselves seem unmotivated to take any self-initiative. The youth from 26 June are even more strongly perceptive of this notion. The reason could be that youth have never been mobilized in a manner that motivated them to see sports as an empowerment tool.

It was also evident that peace and educational opportunities are lacking in the city. The number of high-school drop-outs is increasing per year whereas the government has failed to create the enabling environment for furthering education for all of them. These ultimately creates room for possible recruitment into criminal activities and radicalization of every type. All the respondents from different districts unanimously agreed that education opportunities were rare and this significantly impacted youth empowerment. It demotivated the youth and made them feel less empowered. The general sense of disempowerment also had a negative impact on youth taking up other empowerment activities like entrepreneurial initiatives. However, the respondents from 26 June considered education as an internal motivation factor of an individual. The analysis further showed that youth involvement and engagement in decision making can boost their morale to feel empowered and engage in various empowering activities. Additionally, the availability of social amenities and infrastructure has significant impact the youth empowerment, especially in the Gaan Libah district. Therefore,

banks and prominent businesses should organize such activities to engage the youth in their community and motivate them to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

This study established that youth empowerment is affected by all the hypothesized factors. The availability and accessibility to sports, peace & education, involvement in decision making and availability of social amenities and infrastructure prevent them from having a broader vision and inhibit their empowerment

The perspectives of youth regarding factors such as sports, peace and education, involvement of the youth in decision making, and availability of social amenities and infrastructure were collected from the responses to the questionnaire. The results of the study suggest that the empowerment of the youth at individual and collective levels in all the four variables would ultimately yield positive outcomes.

IV. Conclusion

There are various studies worldwide on youth development, however, very few focuses on youth empowerment within a framework of youth development. This research gap was particularly evident in Hargeisa, a city within a developing country like Somalia. Youth empowerment activities such as sports are the economic backbone of any country, and it serves as the cornerstone for numerous job creation activities in society. Different interventionist strategies have been questioned at every stage for not catering to the needs of young people. To empower the youth, different private sectors players like banks need to develop such strategies which would lead to mainstreaming the youth in sports planning actions, especially directed toward the empowerment of youngsters and assessment of the consequences of the developmental activities.

The Hargeisa city institutes of education tend to churn out many graduands at different levels into a job market where employment opportunities are minimal which further makes it imperative to empower and motivate youth into different activities. However, even accessing these education establishments is a challenge for most youth of Hargeisa as evidenced by the descriptive statistics. The presence or absence of peace significantly influences on the ability of the youth to change their economic lives. Flourishing amidst war is hard. Thus, campaigning for peace and calm is paramount if any of the youth are to transform their societal sustenance. The factors that were identified to have an impact on the empowerment of young Hargeisa's city have been tested in the form of hypotheses and regression analysis was used for the analysis. There is a significant mismatch between the huge number of "idle" youth and the corresponding accessibility of educational resources to empower them.

Dahabshiil bank can undertake a need analysis to realistically profile the developmental situation around the country. The development of a corporate youth policy aimed at the engagement of youth should be based on a real analysis of the situations of youngsters. Youth from minority groups should be included in the youth empowerment policies on a special basis so that everyone feels included in the national policy. Furthermore, to make the country prosperous, youth participation is fundamental. Their participation can be encouraged by designing and implementing youth programs in letter and spirit. The participation of youngsters can also be increased by educating them and initiating capacity-building programs. Youth awareness can also be heightened by initiating campaigns using modern means such as the internet, text messages, and social media platforms

This study presented a framework of factors that contributes to the existing literature on youth empowerment in Hargeisa city within Somalia. There are several reasons behind youth unemployment in Hargeisa such as financial crisis, unfocused government policies, and economic conditions of the country. The findings of this study implicate the lack of sports, scarce educational opportunities, lack of involving the youth in decision making and availability of social amenities and infrastructure can demotivate and disempower the young. The policy makers need to realize that participation of youth while formulating national policies is the only solution to the issues being faced by young people. The youth are not just the future but they are also the present in the context of Hargeisa and must be prioritized accordingly in every field.

V. Recommendations

Future research can adopt a longitudinal research design to examine other conclusions. The model could be tested further with other factors and in different contexts to yield different results. The data could be collected from other respondents from different demographic profiles and compare the findings with the results from this study on youngsters. Comparison between cities within Somalia can also reveal interesting insights on youth perspectives from other regions.

Since this study could not exhaust everything, the researcher suggests that other studies can be done on youth empowerment in the city of Hargeisa. Additionally, other districts in the city can be incorporated in future researches.

Other studies can be done to investigate other variables that influence youth empowerment from a city by city case study. The functional youth empowerment objectives in this study can be explored further, from a Somali governmental policy perspective for implementation and practice for youth empowerment.

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Authors' Contributions

Suleiman Hussein Ahmed: Conceptualization, Methodology, Simulation, Modeling, Sensitivity Analysis, Writing-Originaldraft preparation, reviewing and editing. Selah Kimaru: Supervision:

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Data Availability

The authors declare that the data supporting the findings of this study are available within the paper. Should any raw data files be needed in another format they are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request. Source data are provided with this paper.

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Abbreviations

COFEK	–	Consumer Federation of Kenya,
EIA	–	Energy Information Administration
EPRA	–	Energy and Petroleum

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